Amendments to the Specification

Please insert the following paragraph on page 1 beginning at line 4.

This is a continuation of United States patent application Serial No. 10/243,537 filed September 14, 2002; which is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/677,853 filed October 3, 2000; which is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/084,163 filed May 25, 1998, which issued November 28, 2000, as United States Patent No. 6,154,799; which is a continuation of application Serial No. 07/923,996 filed August 16, 1993, which issued May 26, 1998, as United States Patent No. 5,758,109.

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph which begins on page 5 in line 32.

As illustrated between the dashed lines 20 and 24 in FIG. 1, the ARBITRATION phase of the SCSI protocol begins when one or more devices ~~arbitrates~~ arbitrate for the bus by simultaneously asserting BSY and its address on the SCSI bus. The address asserted by each device during the ARBITRATION phase indicates that device's priority to all other devices on the bus. If a device's address on the DATA BUS corresponds to data bit 7, then that device has

the highest priority on the SCSI bus. Conversely, if a device's address on the SCSI bus corresponds to data bit 0, then that device has the lowest priority on the SCSI bus.

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph which begins On page 9 in line 4.

Thus far, bus switches for arbitration type buses exist only for multi-master centralized arbitration buses. In such central arbitration, requests for access to the bus come to a single arbitration circuit. These requests to the arbitration circuit may be presented on several different bus request signal lines that respectively correspond to different priority levels for the requesting devices. Multiple devices may be connected to the same wire-OR bus request signal line. When such bus request signals arrive at the central arbitration circuit, it decides when and to which priority level it will grant control of the bus. The result of the arbitration circuit's decision is then transmitted back to the devices via bus grant signal lines included in the bus. In these central arbitration buses, the bus grant signal lines are often daisy-chained through the devices connected to the bus so the first requesting device at a particular priority level can block retransmission of the

grant signal to devices further along the bus from the central arbitration circuit, and thereby take control of the bus. This daisy-chaining and grant blocking, if present, is sometimes described as a positional priority system.